MINUTES

Toronto Public Library Board
Meeting No. 1: Monday, January 19, 2004, from 6:50 p.m. to 7:20 p.m.
Toronto Reference Library, Beeton Auditorium, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto

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Members Present:
Ms. Gillian Mason (Chair)
Mr. Bill Booth (Vice Chair)
Mr. Meyer Brownstone
Councillor Gay Cowbourne
Councillor Janet Davis
Ms. Mizan Ibrahim
Councillor Kyle Rae
Councillor Sylvia Watson
Mr. Mitchell Weisberg

Regrets:
Mr. Rick Goldsmith
Mr. Mark Nightingale
Councillor Karen Stintz
Ms. Marjorie Stephenson

The January 19, 2004 meeting of the Toronto Public Library Board was preceded by an information session on the Toronto Public Library's 2004 Operating and Capital Budgets.

04-01 Call to Order

Gillian Mason called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

04-02 Approval of Agenda

***Moved by** M. Brownstone, **seconded by** M. Ibrahim, and **carried**:*
***That** the agenda as revised to include Item #11a – Bell Canada – Ratification of Contract be approved.*

04-03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by members of the Library Board.

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04-04 Approval of December 15, 2003 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by *Councillor Watson,* ***seconded by*** *M. Ibrahim, and* ***carried:***
That *the minutes of the December 15, 2003 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

Business Arising

04-05 Meeting Procedures

In response to a question at the December 15, 2003 Board meeting, Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, advised that according to the Board's Procedural By-law, there is no restriction to the number of questions that a Board member may ask during a meeting. There is a limitation of two times that a Board member can speak to an issue without a Board resolution.

Moved by *Councillor Rae,* ***seconded by*** *Councillor Watson, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the Meeting Procedures verbal report.*

04-06 Chair's Report

(1) Public consultation for the Library's strategic plan is continuing. On February 2, 2004 the public are invited to participate in the third consultation event – *Libraries & Learning – Opening Doors to Education and Employment* – at the Cedarbrae District Library. Confirmed guests for the event include Senator Vivienne Poy and David Booth.

(2) The 2004 *On Stage* series at the Toronto Reference Library will include a number of programs exploring the theme of ethics. The series will begin on April 16, 2004 with a look at ethics and the law, featuring criminal lawyer and environmental and human rights activist Clayton Ruby. The series will continue through the spring with other speakers including Norm Inkster who will talk about ethics and crime, Warren Kinsella who will talk about the ethics of politics, and Stevie Cameron who will talk about ethics in journalism.

(3) The Runnymede Branch will close for renovation at the end of January. When it reopens in the Winter of 2005, patrons will enjoy improved building access, new space for adult and children's programs, a special area for teens, and space for community meetings. During the closure, the hours of the nearby Annette Street and Swansea Memorial Branches will be extended.

Chair's Report (continued)

(4) Donations by the Friends of Toronto Public Library exceeded $100,000 in 2003. The Friends North Chapter continued to support *Leading to Reading* with a $60,000 donation. The Friends South Chapter donated more than $43,000 to support *English Can Be Fun*, as well as writing workshops at the Toronto Reference Library. A generous donation was also received from students at West Humber Collegiate. Students pay $1 for the opportunity to dress casually at school once a month; all proceeds go to a charity of the students' choice. In November, the students donated $364.00 to TPL for literacy programs.

(5) *Canada Council for the Arts* recently approved the Library's 2004 application for funding: $22,500 to bring in authors, both local and national. Negotiations are underway to line up an array of authors, both for children and for adults.

(6) Ontario Library Association conference exhibit passes are available free of charge to individuals who are not registered for the conference. The exhibit expo runs Thursday, January 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday, January 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30.p.m.

(7) TVO will air a conversation with Gillian Mason and Hal Niedzviecki, Globe and Mail on the relevance of libraries today airing on *Imprint* on Thursday, January 22 at 7:30 p.m.

***Moved by** M. Weisberg, **seconded by** Councillor Cowbourne, and **carried**:*
***That** the Chair's Report be received for information.*

04-07 Presentations

Allan Farrington addressed the Board concerning computer access at the Toronto Public Library [see 04-08 – Communications – Items (a) and (b)]. He advised that the matter has been resolved to his satisfaction.

Meyer Brownstone expressed appreciation to Mr. Farrington for his presentation.

***Moved by** M. Brownstone, **seconded by** M. Weisberg, and **carried**:*
***That** the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the presentation of Allan Farrington concerning computer access.*

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04-08 Communications

Moved by *M. Ibrahim,* ***seconded by*** *M. Weisberg, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Toronto Public Library Board receive Communication Items (a) and (b) for information:*

(a) Email message from Allan F. Farrington, to Gillian Mason, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board, dated December 31, 2003, concerning computer access at the Toronto Public Library

(b) Email message from Gillian Mason, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board, to Allan F. Farrington, dated January 8, 2004, in response to Mr. Farrington's email message concerning computer access at the Toronto Public Library [see (a) above].

Items for Approval:

04-09 2004 Interim Operating Budget

Moved by *M. Ibrahim,* ***seconded by*** *B. Booth, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Toronto Public Library Board adopt the 2004 interim operating budget estimates as approved by City Council.*

04-10 Toronto Public Library Strategic Plan 2004-2006 – ***The Long View: Strategic Plan Consultation Workbook***

Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, provided the Board with a presentation outlining details of the Toronto Public Library's strategic planning process to-date.

Moved by *Councillor Rae,* ***seconded by*** *B. Booth, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Toronto Public Library Board:*

(1) receive the strategic plan update for information; and

(2) approve the initial draft of the strategic plan as contained in The Long View: Strategic Plan Public Consultation Workbook as a basis for consultation.

04-11 Holiday Closures

Moved by *M. Ibrahim,* ***seconded by*** *Councillor Watson, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Library be closed on Monday, December 27, 2004, for the Boxing Day holiday.*

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04-12 Bell Canada – Ratification of Contract

Moved by *Councillor Cowbourne,* ***seconded by*** *M. Weisberg, and* ***carried****:*
That*:*

(1) the Toronto Public Library Board ratify the Toronto Public Library's portion of the Metnet Federation Centrex contract with Bell Canada for a five-year period; and

(2) the appropriate Library staff be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Other Business

04-13 (a) Additional Business Item

At the request of Councillor Davis and per the *Toronto Public Library Board Procedural By-law #20.5 – Agenda*, it was:

Moved by *M. Ibrahim,* ***seconded by*** *B. Booth, and* ***carried****:*
That *an additional business item – Public Consultation – be added to the agenda on the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting.*

04-14 (b) Public Consultation – Toronto Public Library Board's 2004 Budget Process

Moved by *Councillor Davis,* ***seconded by*** *M. Brownstone, and* ***carried****:*
That *the Toronto Public Library Board:*

(1) prepare a list of individuals or groups, both internal and external to the Library, that may have an interest in Library services and the Library budget;

(2) develop methods to communicate with these interested individuals and groups as the Library progresses through the 2004 budget process; and

(3) develop easy to understand materials to support advocacy efforts undertaken by community supporters, encourage deputations and mobilize support for the Library's budget.

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04-15 Closed Meeting Minutes
Approval of December 15, 2003 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes

***Moved by** M. Ibrahim, **seconded by** B. Booth, and **carried**:*
***That** the Closed Meeting minutes of the December 15, 2003 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

04-16 Adjournment

***Moved by** M. Weisberg, **seconded by** M. Ibrahim, and **carried**:*
***That** the January 19, 2004 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be adjourned.*

The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.

Signed: _____